CIVIL WAR™

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WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

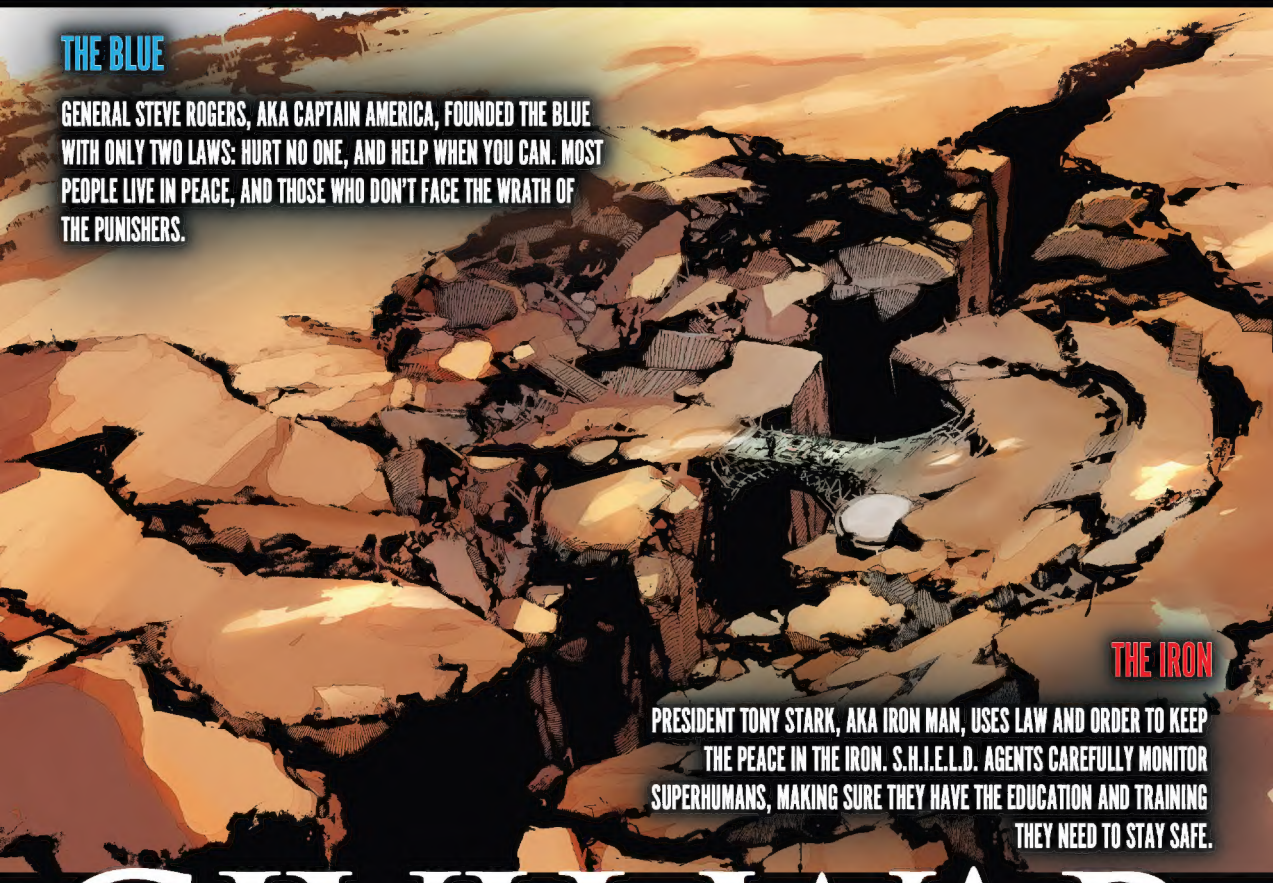
SECRET WARS

MARVEL

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED! NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS **BATTLEWORLD!**

A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF, AND IN THE DOMAIN CALLED THE WARZONE, THE WAR OVER THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT NEVER ENDED. THE BATTLE IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO END THE WAR INSTEAD CAUSED AN EXPLOSION THAT KILLED FIFTEEN MILLION PEOPLE, AND THE DOMAIN WAS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE.


THE BLUE
GENERAL STEVE ROGERS, AKA CAPTAIN AMERICA, FOUNDED THE BLUE WITH ONLY TWO LAWS: HURT NO ONE, AND HELP WHEN YOU CAN. MOST PEOPLE LIVE IN PEACE, AND THOSE WHO DON'T FACE THE WRATH OF THE PUNISHERS.
THE IRON
PRESIDENT TONY STARK, AKA IRON MAN, USES LAW AND ORDER TO KEEP THE PEACE IN THE IRON. S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS CAREFULLY MONITOR SUPERHUMANS, MAKING SURE THEY HAVE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THEY NEED TO STAY SAFE.

CIVIL WAR

STEVE ROGERS AND TONY STARK RECENTLY MET AT THE DIVIDE TO DISCUSS A TRUCE, BUT HOPES FOR PEACE BETWEEN THE BLUE AND THE IRON DIED ALONG WITH THE WOMAN WHO ARRANGED THE PEACE TALKS, MIRIAM SHARPE, WHO WAS ASSASSINATED BY AN UNKNOWN SHOOTER. ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS ROGERS WAS THE INTENDED TARGET...

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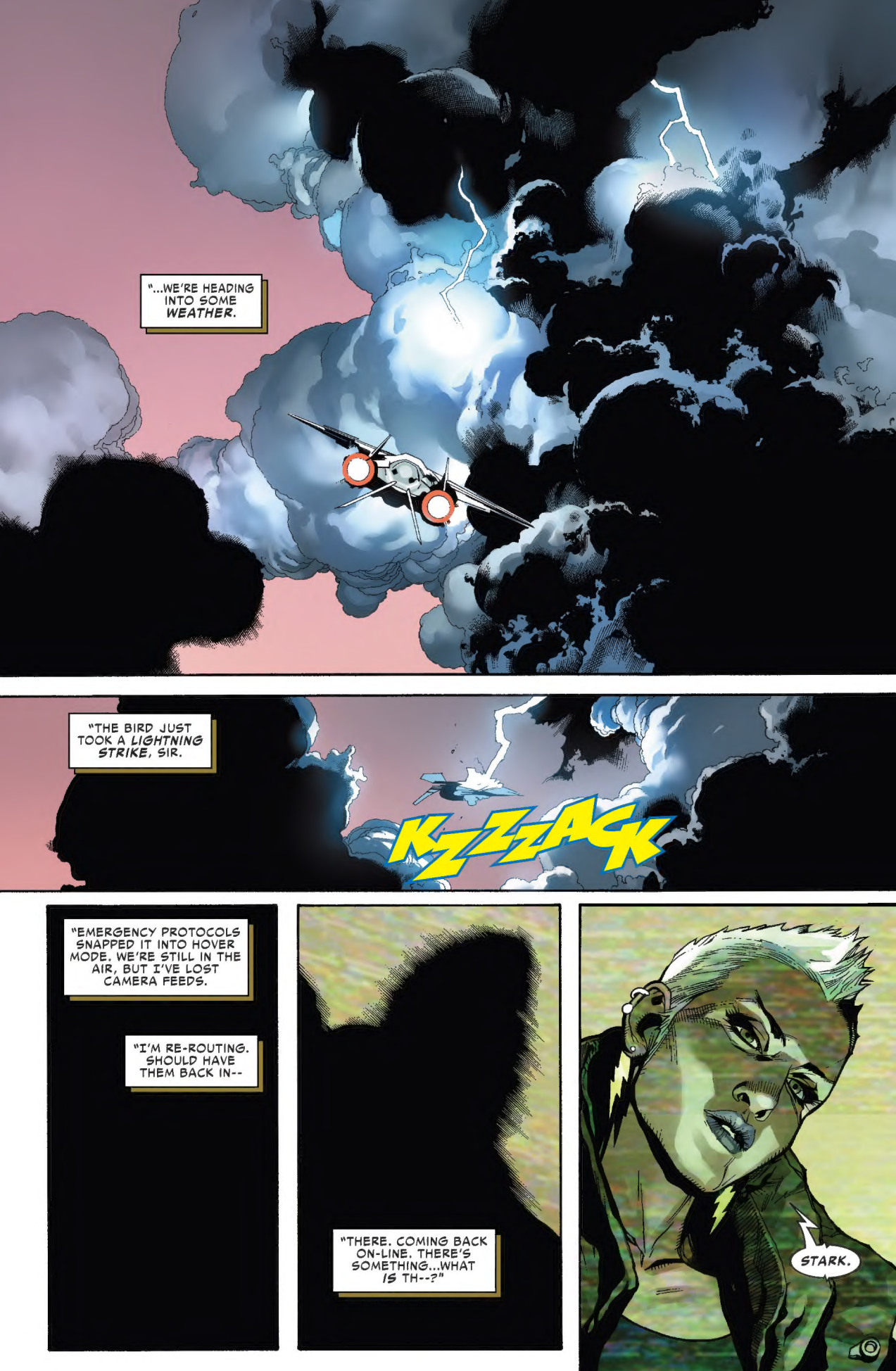
THE BLUE.
"THE DRONE HAS THE TRAIL, MR. PRESIDENT."
LOOKS LIKE THE SHOOTER HEADED DUE WEST.
MM.
AMAZING THAT THE DRONE CAN FOLLOW THE TRAIL EVEN HOURS AFTER THE ATTACK, SIR. THE TECH'S DAMN IMPRESSIVE.
IT HAD A MODESTLY TALENTED DESIGNER.
...
OF COURSE, PRESIDENT STARK. I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED.
STEALTH IS STILL GOOD, BUT ENEMY SCANNERS COULD PICK US UP AT ANY MINUTE. HOW FAR DO YOU WANT ME TO GO?
THE IRON.
ALL THE WAY.
YES, SIR. ALTHOUGH, I SHOULD ALSO MENTION...


"...WE'RE HEADING INTO SOME *WEATHER.*
"THE BIRD JUST TOOK A *LIGHTNING STRIKE*, SIR.
KZZZACK
"EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS SNAPPED IT INTO HOVER MODE. WE'RE STILL IN THE AIR, BUT I'VE LOST CAMERA FEEDS.
"I'M RE-ROUTING. SHOULD HAVE THEM BACK IN--
"THERE. COMING BACK ON-LINE. THERE'S SOMETHING...WHAT *IS* TH--?"
STARK.

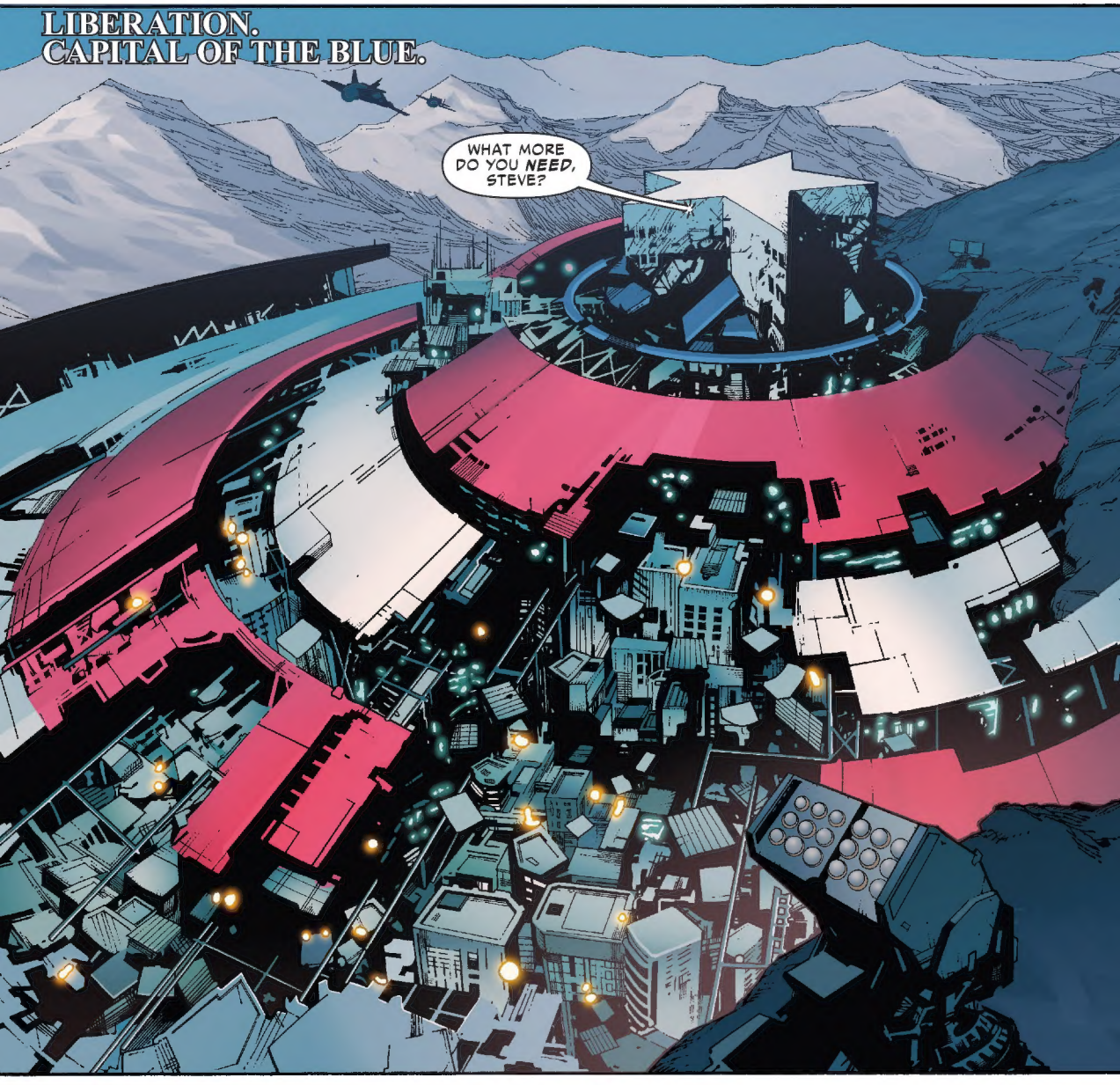
YOU SEND A MACHINE TO SPY ON US?
HNH.
YOU ARE EITHER WATCHING NOW, MR. PRESIDENT, OR YOU WILL SEE THIS LATER. SO LISTEN WELL:
I AM ORORO MUNROE. IN MY NAME AND THE NAME OF MY HUSBAND T'CHALLA, DEAD BY YOUR HAND, I CALL YOU COWARD, TONY STARK.
AND IF THAT OFFENDS YOU...
KRRACK
...CROSS THE DIVIDE AND PROVE ME WRONG.

STEELTOWN. THE BLUE. EIGHTY MILES WEST OF THE DIVIDE.
SKREEEEE
I BROUGHT YOU A GIFT.
I SEE THAT, STORM. VERY GENEROUS.
STEELTOWN STRONGER THAN IRON
YOU'RE SURE IT IS DEAD? IT WON'T BLOW UP AND WRECK HALF THE CITY?
I'M CERTAIN, PIOTR. I WOULD NOT HAVE BROUGHT IT HERE IF IT POSED ANY DANGER.

MM. EYES IN THE SKY--I KNOW STARK USES THESE THINGS IN THE IRON TO SPY ON HIS *OWN* PEOPLE, BUT IT HAS BEEN YEARS SINCE HE SENT ONE HERE INTO THE BLUE.
HE MUST KNOW THERE WILL BE REPERCUSSIONS. I WONDER WHAT HE WAS SO DESPERATE TO SEE?
LET'S FIND OUT.
KRNCH
HERE. *THE BRAIN,* SUCH AS IT IS.
KRRRICK
SEND IT TO GENERAL ROGERS FOR ANALYSIS, IF YOU PLEASE, ORORO.
AND WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE REST OF THE MACHINE?
OH, I IMAGINE *MAGNETO* AND I CAN DETERMINE A PROPORTIONAL RESPONSE...

RESILIENT ALPHA.
CAPITAL CITY OF THE IRON.
WE'VE GOT A PROJECTILE INCOMING, SIR. TRAJECTORY SUGGESTS IT ORIGINATED FROM THE BLUE. SOMEWHERE NEAR STEELTOWN.
BOMBARDMENT, BARNES?
NO, SIR. LOOKS LIKE JUST THE ONE. NO EXPLOSIVES OR WEAPONRY. IT'S JUST A LUMP OF METAL, FAR AS SENSORS CAN TELL. SHOULD WE HAVE COLONEL DANVERS SCRAMBLE HER SQUADRON?
NEGATIVE.

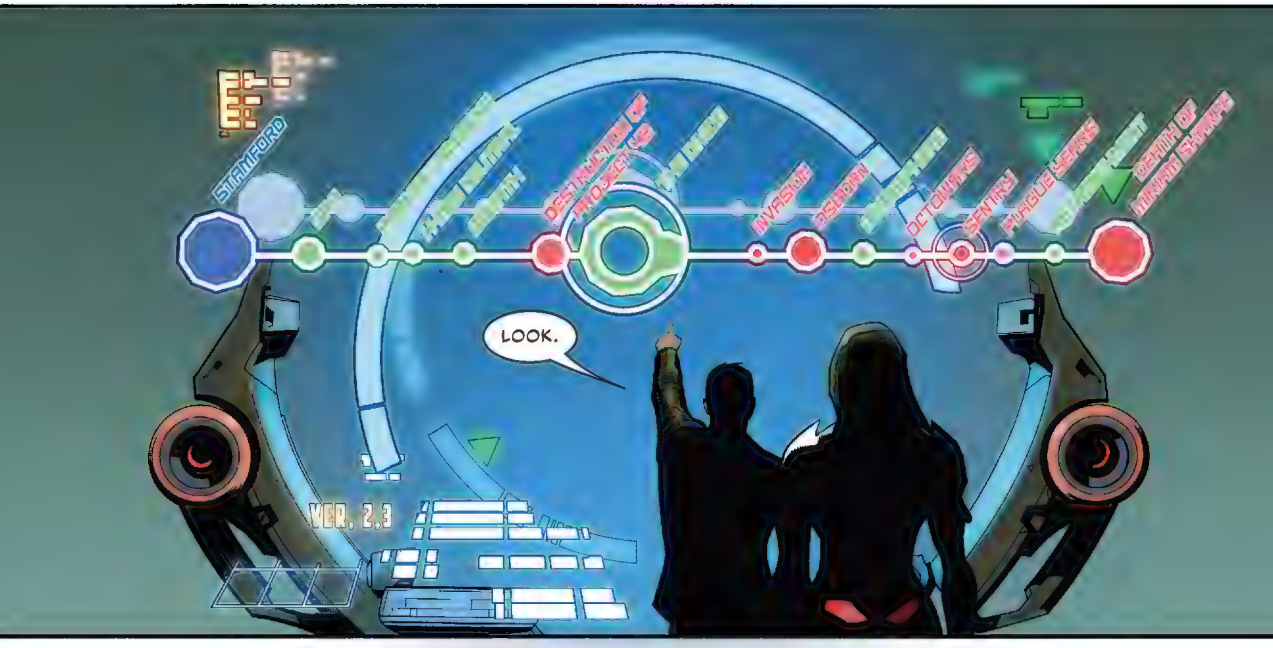
NEXT TIME IT'S A HULK!
UH-HUH. IF YOU HAD A REAL HULK, I THINK I WOULD KNOW ABOUT IT.
SZZACK
BUT ACTUALLY, THAT'S AN EXCELLENT IDEA.
JENNIFER. I NEED YOU.
RIGHT AWAY, TONY.


LIBERATION.
CAPITAL OF THE BLUE.
WHAT MORE DO YOU *NEED*, STEVE?

STARK TRIES TO *ASSASSINATE* YOU, AND NOW HE'S PUSHING AT OUR BORDERS? WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE BLUE TO *ACT!*
WE DON'T *KNOW* WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK AT THE DIVIDE, NOT FOR SURE.
AND STARK SENT *ONE DRONE*, PARKER.
IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE INVASION OF NORMANDY.

YOU SWORE TO ME, STEVE... IF THE PEACE TALKS FAILED, THAT WE'D--
ENOUGH.
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT STARK BRINGING MARY JANE AND YOUR DAUGHTER TO THOSE PEACE TALKS WAS JUST ANOTHER ATTACK?
YOU'RE RATTLED.
NO, GENERAL ROGERS. I AM VERY CALM. CUCUMBER.
I STAY IN THE BLUE BECAUSE I'M FREE HERE. IN EVERY SENSE. I BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU'VE BUILT, AND ALWAYS WILL.
BUT THIS WAR HAS TO END, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. IF YOU DON'T WANT THAT, THEN WHY DID YOU AUTHORIZE BELLCURVE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
DEVELOPING A WEAPON IS A VERY DIFFERENT THING FROM DEPLOYING IT, PARKER.
I WILL NOT MAKE THAT DECISION LIGHTLY. PEOPLE WILL DIE. MANY, POTENTIALLY.
AND IF STARK KEEPS CUTTING OFF OUR FOOD, STEVE? WE'VE STILL GOT A FEW ALLIES ON THE OUTSIDE-- BUT IF TONY GETS MORE AGGRESSIVE ABOUT THE WARZONE'S BORDERS...
LET'S GO SEE MCCOY.

THE IRON. RESILIENT ALPHA. CORE COMMAND.
YOU SEE, JEN? THIS IS THE DATA WE PULLED FROM THE DRONE BEFORE STORM'S ATTACK. THESE RESULTS MAKE NO SENSE.
BACK UP, TONY. I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT QUESTION YOU'RE ASKING. WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH FINDING OUT WHO KILLED MY FRIEND MIRIAM SHARPE?
JUST LISTEN. I WAS SINCERE WHEN I WENT INTO THOSE PEACE TALKS. I WANT THE WAR TO END. YOU KNOW THAT.
THE WORLD IS A SCARY PLACE, FULL OF SCARY THINGS. THE WARZONE WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO DEFEND AGAINST THOSE THINGS IF IT IS UNITED.
I DIDN'T AUTHORIZE AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON GENERAL ROGERS.
AND I HIGHLY DOUBT THAT STEVE WOULD HAVE GREENLIT A HIT ON HIMSELF.
SO WHO THE HELL DID IT?
THERE ARE INDEPENDENT FACTIONS OUT THERE. TERRORIST GROUPS ON BOTH SIDES. THE PEACE TALKS WERE PUBLICIZED. EVERYONE KNEW YOU TWO WOULD BE THERE, AND--
THAT'S NOT ALL, JENNIFER.


STRATFORD
DESTRUCTION OF ATLANTIS
INVASION
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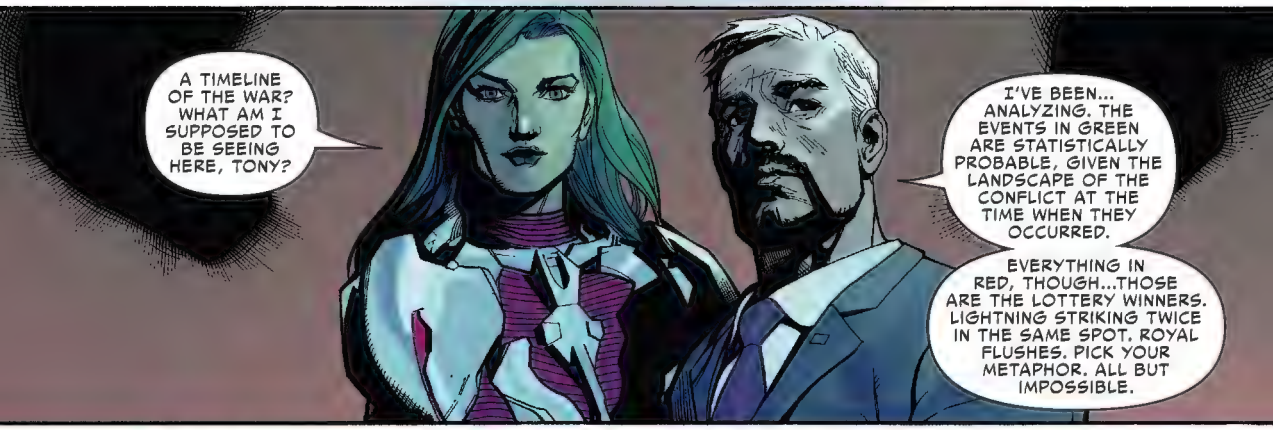
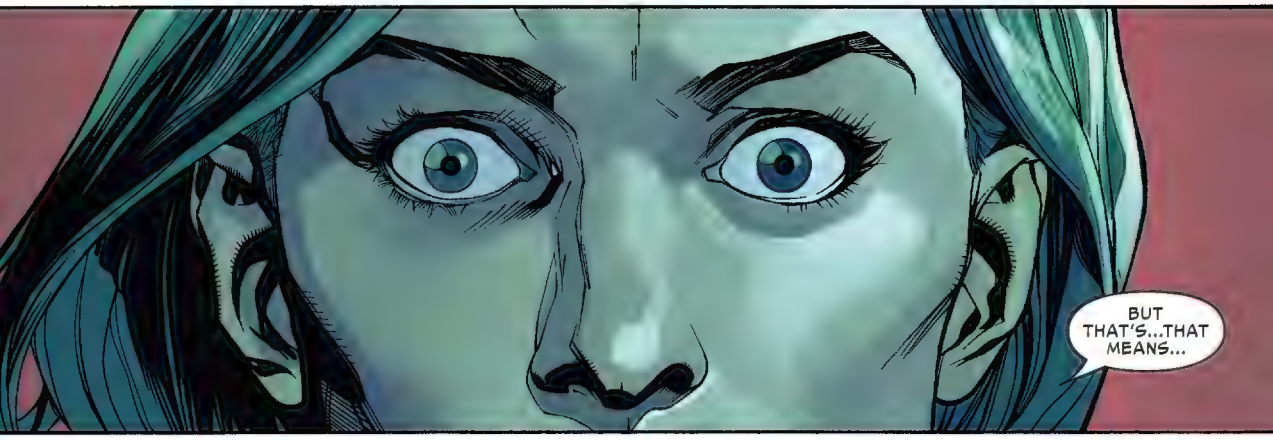
SENTRY
PLAGUE YEARS
DEATH OF INFINITY STONES
LOOK.
VER. 2.3


A TIMELINE OF THE WAR? WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE SEEING HERE, TONY?
I'VE BEEN... ANALYZING. THE EVENTS IN GREEN ARE STATISTICALLY PROBABLE, GIVEN THE LANDSCAPE OF THE CONFLICT AT THE TIME WHEN THEY OCCURRED.
EVERYTHING IN RED, THOUGH...THOSE ARE THE LOTTERY WINNERS. LIGHTNING STRIKING TWICE IN THE SAME SPOT. ROYAL FLUSHES. PICK YOUR METAPHOR. ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE.


BUT THAT'S...THAT MEANS...

RIGHT. WE'RE BEING *PLAYED.*

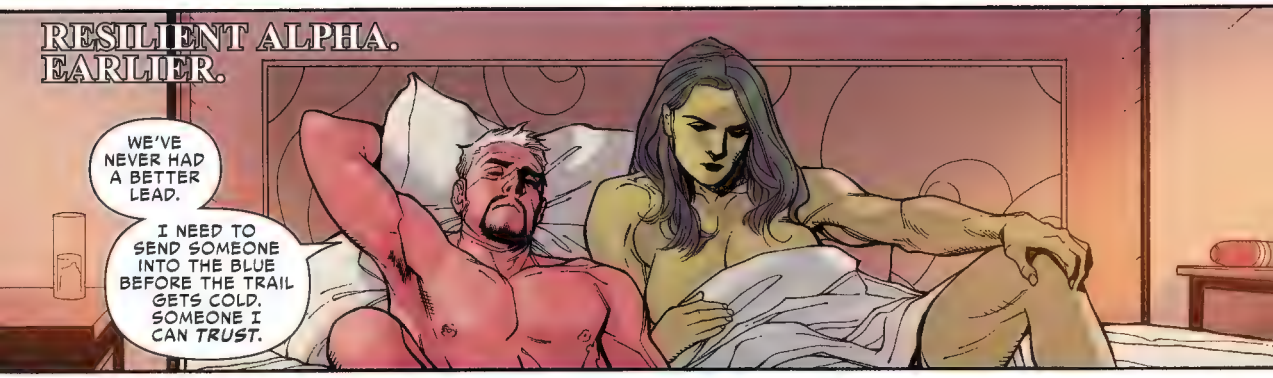
THE LABORATORY OF HANK McCOY.
HE'S IN THERE?
ABSOLUTELY.
I THINK IT'S GOTTEN HARDER FOR HIM TO HOLD HIMSELF TOGETHER OVER THE YEARS. BUT BELIEVE ME--THAT'S HIM.
PUNISHERS FOUND HIM HIDING ALONG THE ROAD JUST OUTSIDE OLYMPUS. IN THE DIRT.
HE'D WAIT FOR TRAVELERS TO COME BY, AND THEN POP UP LIKE...WELL, LIKE A TRAPDOOR SPIDER. KILL THEM, TAKE WHATEVER THEY HAD.
HE UNDERSTANDS WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN. IT WAS ALL EXPLAINED TO HIM, SEVERAL TIMES.
HE UNDERGOES THIS PROCEDURE IN EXCHANGE FOR A COMMUTATION OF HIS SENTENCE. LIFE IN PRISON INSTEAD OF... PUNISHMENT.
SO HE CAN TALK? HEAR AND RESPOND?
WHEN HE WISHES TO.
WILLIAM BAKER. ALSO KNOWN AS FLINT MARKO. YOU HAVE AGREED TO ACCEPT THE BLUE'S JUSTICE, COME WHAT MAY.
BUT THIS IS THE BLUE--FREEDOM IS WHY WE EXIST. CHOICE IS EVERYTHING.
I WILL GIVE YOU ONE FINAL CHANCE TO CHOOSE A DIFFERENT PATH. SPEAK NOW, OR WE WILL PROCEED.

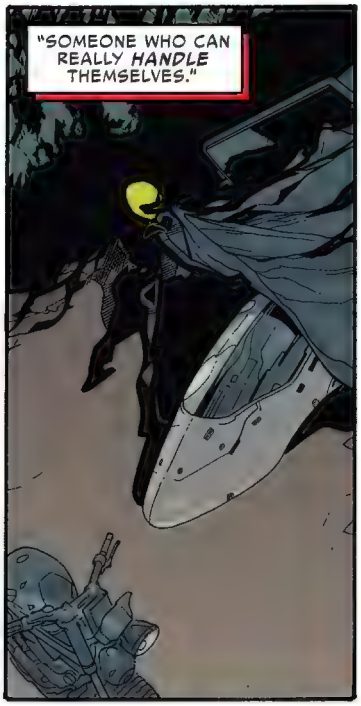
I WAS OUT THERE FOR YEARS, GENERAL, AND YOU'RE RIGHT. BLUE IS ABOUT FREEDOM. I HAD PLENTY, AND I USED IT. LOVED EVERY DAMN MINUTE OF IT, TOO.
MADE MY CHOICE. GOT NO REGRETS.
BET YOU CAN'T SAY THE SAME.
SSSHHHHSSS
DO IT.
ACTIVATING PROCEDURE. STEP AWAY, BOTH OF YOU. THE CONTAINMENT CHAMBER IS WELL SEALED, BUT WE DON'T WANT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.
DON'T EVEN TRY TO BREAK OUT, FLINT.
I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH IT HURTS. YOU GET OUT, I'LL MAKE IT WORSE.
GRAAAAAGH!
VRRRRRRRR
NYAAAARRRGH!

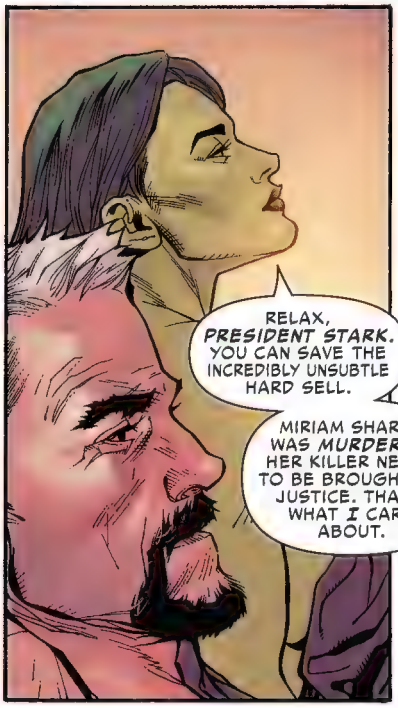
YES. I DO BELIEVE THAT'S A SUCCESSFUL RESULT FOR *PROJECT BELLCURVE.*
BUT BEST TO CONFIRM.
KLIK
PETE?
IT WORKED. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. THIS WOULD HAVE WASHED HIM RIGHT DOWN THE DRAIN EVEN AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS POWERS. AND NOW...
NO. SANDMAN'S DONE. MARKO'S JUST A NORMAL MAN.
SSSS
YOU'RE NOT CONCERNED THAT HE MIGHT SPEAK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
NO. HE'LL BE KEPT IN AN ISOLATION CELL UNTIL THE END OF THE PROJECT.
OKAY. WE KNOW BELLCURVE *WORKS.* WHEN DO WE *USE* IT?
FORGIVE ME, GENTLEMEN. BELLCURVE WILL WORK AGAINST ANY NON-TECH-POWERED INDIVIDUAL--THAT WAS THE IDEA FROM THE START. BUT THERE IS A *COMPLICATION.*

THE RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ACTIVATE BELLCURVE ARE EXTREMELY SCARCE, AT LEAST IN THE BLUE.
I SCRAPED TOGETHER WHAT WE HAD, BUT IT WASN'T MUCH.
MM. HOW MANY TIMES CAN WE USE IT, JUST WITH WHAT WE'VE GOT?
AH. THAT WAS IT. JUST THE ONCE, I'M AFRAID.
THAT'S *IT?* THAT'S *ALL?* WHY DIDN'T YOU *TELL--*
I WAS ASKED TO DEVELOP A WORKING DEVICE-- *I DID THAT!* ANYTHING ELSE WAS BEYOND--
ENOUGH, BOTH OF YOU. *ENOUGH.*
HANK, YOU SAID THE RESOURCES WE NEED AREN'T AVAILABLE IN THE *BLUE.* WHERE CAN WE GET THEM?
OUTSIDE THE WARZONE, BUT NOWHERE WE CAN EASILY ACCESS. NO, THE ONLY READY SOURCE IS...IN THE *IRON.*
I'LL GO.
PETE, LET'S THINK THIS--
STEVE, *SIR--* NO. WE CAN'T WAIT. MIRIAM SHARPE, AND NOW THIS *DRONE ATTACK?*
STARK HAS A *PLAN,* AND GOD HELP US IF HE PULLS IT OFF. WE HAVE TO HIT HIM FIRST.
...
FINE. DO IT. BUT LET ME SAY ONE THING, PETER.
MARY JANE MAKES THIS *PERSONAL* FOR YOU. THAT'S IMPORTANT. WE ALL NEED A REASON TO FIGHT. BUT *REMEMBER...*
...MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE BLUE NEED YOU JUST AS MUCH AS SHE DOES.

ABOVE THE DIVIDE.
"EVEN THOUGH WE DIDN'T GET A FULL PICTURE BEFORE STORM TOOK OUT OUR DRONE, IT WAS PRETTY CLEAR THAT THE ASSASSIN WHO KILLED MIRIAM SHARPE WAS HEADED TO STEELTOWN."

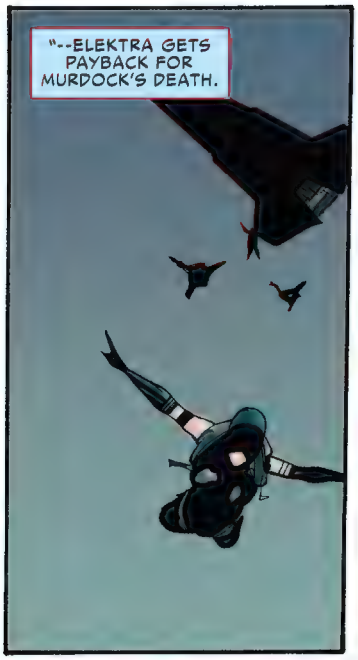

RESILIENT ALPHA.
EARLIER.
WE'VE NEVER HAD A BETTER LEAD.
I NEED TO SEND SOMEONE INTO THE BLUE BEFORE THE TRAIL GETS COLD. SOMEONE I CAN *TRUST*.

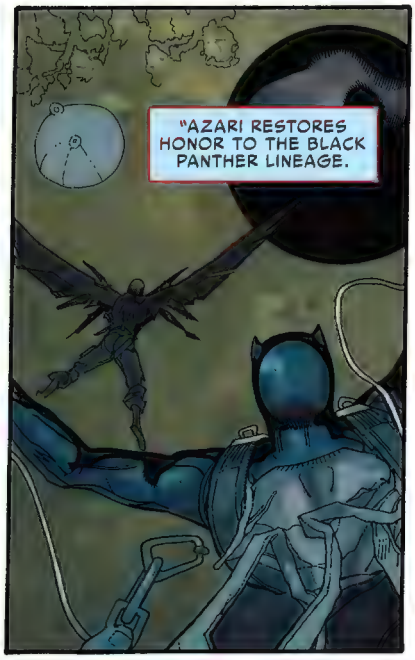

"SOMEONE WHO CAN REALLY *HANDLE* THEMSELVES."


RELAX, *PRESIDENT STARK*. YOU CAN SAVE THE INCREDIBLY UNSUBTLE HARD SELL.
MIRIAM SHARPE WAS *MURDERED*. HER KILLER NEEDS TO BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. THAT'S WHAT *I* CARE ABOUT.

SOLVING YOUR LITTLE PUZZLE IS MORE OF A TWO-BIRDS-ONE-STONE THING.

OKAY, PEOPLE. YOU EACH HAVE YOUR TARGET. THREE OBJECTIVES, ALL IN THE IRON, ALL LIKELY TO BE HEAVILY GUARDED.
I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE NOT KNOWING THE WHY OF ALL THIS, AND I'M SORRY. THIS IS AS NEED-TO-KNOW AS IT GETS.
BUT WITH THAT IN MIND, BE AWARE OF ONE THING: WE COMPLETE THIS MISSION, AND VERY SOON AFTER THAT--


"--ELEKTRA GETS PAYBACK FOR MURDOCK'S DEATH.


"AZARI RESTORES HONOR TO THE BLACK PANTHER LINEAGE.

"VENOM WILL...GET SOME CLOSURE FOR...FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.

"AND ME... WELL...

"...I'M GOING TO GET MY FAMILY BACK."

IF I'M RIGHT ABOUT THIS, OUR WHOLE EXISTENCE... EVERYTHING WE THINK IS TRUE...IT'S ALL WRONG. ONE HUGE LIE AFTER ANOTHER.
I GET THAT. WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND, THOUGH... IS WHY?
THIS IS THE CLOSEST WE'VE EVER BEEN TO AN ANSWER, JEN.
STEELTOWN'S CLOSED UNTIL MORNING, LADY, UNLESS YOU GOT AN INVITATION.
AND HOW ABOUT YOU LOSE THE HELMET? LET US GET A LOOK AT YOU.
"YOU CAN'T GO AS SHE-HULK--NOT TOO MANY SEVEN-FOOT-TALL GREEN STUNNERS RUNNING AROUND. THIS'LL BE A JOB FOR JENNIFER WALTERS.
GATE
NAME'S ANGIE WALKER. I'M A LAWYER.
I HAVE A CLIENT IN STEELTOWN. EMERGENCY MEETING. CAN'T WAIT.
"FROST'S PEOPLE WILL GET YOU THE PAPERS YOU NEED TO PASS IN THE BLUE.
OKAY, THESE CHECK OUT. WHO'S ON CALL TONIGHT FOR THE SECOND SCAN?
THE BIG GUY. STILL KIND OF AMAZED HE TAKES TIME TO DO THIS, BUT I GUESS WE ALL HAVE TO DO OUR PART.
I'M THINKING AT HIM TO COME DOWN RIGHT NOW.
UH...SECOND SCAN?
"HER GUYS ARE EXPERTS.
YEAH. POLICY. ANYONE COMING IN AFTER THE GATES ARE SHUT GETS A CLOSER LOOK, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
RIGHT. JUST TO BE SURE. WON'T TAKE LONG.
"THE CREDENTIALS THEY GIVE YOU WILL BE INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE REAL THING.
EXCUSE ME.

HOW CAN I BE OF ASSISTANCE?
JUST A GATE SCAN, PROFESSOR X. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THIS GAL'S WHO SHE SAYS SHE IS.
WON'T TAKE YOU ANY TIME AT ALL.
"HONESTLY, JENNIFER...
"...I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT."
TO BE CONTINUED.

CIVIL WAR

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

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